



## PRESS RELEASE

No: 185/2018

Date: 23rd March 2018

### **Minister for Equality attends United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**

The Minister for Equality, the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP, attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Karina Khubchand, Crown Counsel at the Ministry for Equality, accompanied the Minister.

The UN CSW is the most prominent entity on women's issues, takes the lead in coordinating and promoting the UN's work on economic and social issues for women's empowerment and is instrumental in promoting gender equality. The annual event brings together leaders, top-level policy makers and professional experts from around the world. The programme of events was wide-ranging and covered a diverse spectrum of global issues in relation to gender equality and its strategic development.

Minister Sacramento attended as part of the UK delegation, and therefore took part in the briefings at the UK Mission in New York. This helped strengthen contacts at Ministerial and Parliamentary level with UK Members of Parliament as well as with senior officials from the UK Government's Ministry for Equalities.

Commenting on the session the Minister for Equality, Samantha Sacramento MP, said: "The knowledge and contacts gained at the UN CSW are invaluable. It serves to highlight areas where we can learn and is an important reminder of how privileged we are in Gibraltar in comparison to other countries. One of the primary focuses was the need for the removal of gender stereotypes in the workplace as well as in everyday lives, given the limitations to development that such stereotypes may cause. There was also a very strong emphasis on tackling domestic abuse and helpful advice on effective strategies. Given that these are two key focus areas in the Ministry of Equality's business plan, the session served as a useful learning tool and reinforced that the Ministry's strategic focus is on the right track."